From Spark to Space

HAMATEUR CHATTER

One of the World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Clubs - - since 1917

Volume 10 No. 3 - May., '02

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From The President's Desk

Dave DeFebo - WB9BWP

This year we are doing newsletters every other month. That means I need to take up more space to air my opinions. Don't worry, you only have to read this one and a farewell letter next time as I am not running for re-election. Four years at one time is enough. After all, there are over 125 members of the club and everybody needs to get a turn. Oh, I forgot, some people are afraid to run for an office. Oh well, this is your club, you get what you make of it.

Reminder, the May meeting is the Annual Auction. Bring some stuff down to sell. Make a few bucks. Maybe the club makes a few bucks too. Maybe everyone has a good time (I try to keep it entertaining). Tell your ham friends (or soon to be ham friends) too, everyone is welcome.

We had a successful 85th Anniversary special event operation back in March. Over 500 people talked with club members. Over 150 have requested certificates. Tom Schulte did a great job bringing this all together. Tom and Brian White designed and printed the certificates. They did a great job. Maybe we will do this for 90, 95, and of course 100 years. If you participated, thanks for the good work. If you didn't, why not?

The April meeting saw nominations for the upcoming elections. I want to thank:

John Kraak - KF9XL, Sherm Swanson - KB9Q, and Jack Hughes - W9ULA for their work as a nominating committee to make sure we get at least one name running for every office. All the officers and 2 directors are up for election. Yes that includes the office of the President. After a great speech by John Kraak at the February meeting, Patrick Moretti - W9UQ offered to run for President. In the 34 years I have been a member of the club (yes, I became a member before I was born) I have held every office except Secretary (must have been some oversight). I have been an officer or a director for about 22 of those 34 years. I'm tired and need a rest. This isn't just my club. It's everyone's club. Everyone should have a hand in running it. Time for someone else to take the helm (or the Com - depending on how old you are). I'm not going anywhere (at least I don't think so), I just need some time for myself, my family, some of my amateur radio interests which I have been neglecting, and attempting to figure out how to make money for myself (since no other organization can be depended on). I will still be involved, just not trying to run things. And just think, you won't have to read my rants anymore.

We are also in need of a new Vice-President. Matt Planning KB9PRC is still young and trying to bite off more than he

Continued on pg 2

Milwaukee Area Nets

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Daily	6-8 AM	14.290	Wisconsin/Florida (SSB)
Daily	6:30 PM	3.645	WI Slow Speed CW Traffic
Mon-Fri	8:30 AM	3.965	After Breakfast Club (SSB)
Mon.	**8:00 PM**	**3.994**	**Tech Net NEW**
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.445	Emergency Net
Mon.	9:00 PM	146.670	ARES Net (Milwaukee-Waukesha)
Mon.	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. General Net
Tue.	9:00 AM	50.160	6 Mtr. 2nd Shifter's Net
Tue.	8:00 PM	144.250	Badger Contesters (SSB)
Tue.	8:00 PM	7.035	A.F.A.R. (CW)
Wed.	8:00 PM	28.365	10/10 Internat. (Milwaukee Ch.) (SSB)
Wed.	8:00 PM	147.270+	Weather & Swap net.

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Thu	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. General Interest Net
Thu.	9:00 PM	146.91 -	Computer Net
Fri	**8:30 PM**	**28.490**	**MRAC W9RH 10 meter Net (SSB)**
Fri.	**9:00 PM**	**147.045+**	**W9RH 2 mtr. FM Net after 10 mtr. Net**
Sat	9:00 PM	146.910-	Saturday Night Fun Net
Sun.	8:30 AM	3.985	QCWA (Chptr 55) (SSB)
Sun.	10:00 AM	443.800+	FM-38 link to 146.88 Baraboo SWAP Net
Sun.	8:00 PM	28.365	10/10 International (Milwaukee Ch.) (SSB)
Sun.	8:00 PM	146.91-	Information Net
Sun.	9:00 PM	146.91-	Swap Net

Two meter (FM) Frequencies are 600 KHz offset repeaters. FM 38 is + 5 MHz. Ten meter (SSB) frequencies are upper sideband (USB).

Prez Cont. from pg. 1

can chew (I speak from experience on this). He needs to gather more time too. He has done an admirable job coming from nowhere and graduating from college, getting his license and instantly taking on the jobs of Director and then 1st Vice-President and then going back to school, studying code, cooking at Field Day and on and on. While the VP post is not always the easiest, having to setup meeting programs, everyone is there to help (and I do mean EVERYONE). We have removed the program requirement from the job description of the VP post just to make it easier for someone to run for that spot. After that speech I mentioned earlier, Mark Tellier - AB9CD offered to run for Vice President. Brian White -K9LCQ will also be our last 2nd VP (besides maintaining the club database, email lists, setting up and operating APRS and satellite stations at the last few Field Days, getting the club a new banner, and more). The position was created in the fifties. In this new century we have eliminated it. We have also eliminated a director position just to keep the number of board members an odd one (not odd people, an odd number). That way, there should never be a tie vote. That leaves us with a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 5 Directors. Everyone has a 2 year term, with the directors staggered. This year we elect 4 officers and 2 directors. Jim Tromblay is also not running for re-election as Secretary. Over the last 10 years or more, Jim has been Director and Secretary (maybe a VP too, I don't remember) besides historian, custodian, A/V guy, church liaison, and still more. Jim's work life is changing and he too needs time to himself. Tom Schulte - AB9EK has offered to run for Secretary. When Tom gets the job, his Director post will be empty with 1 year remaining. The new President will get to appoint someone to fill that post. By the time you read this, nominations will be closed. Looks like you got away with not running for another year (but you could get appointed as a 1 year director, watch out).

Last year, between the monthly raffle, the special 10 meter radio raffle, the auction, and any monthly auctions of donated equipment, we took in over $700. That plus electronic newsletters and fewer newsletters during the year has gone a long way to net the club about $1100 in the year 2001. That does not mean we are in the business of making money, in 1999 we lost about $1600, in 2000 about $1000. We are holding the line on dues at $15 (almost 10 years I think). Many clubs are going to or are at $20. I mention money because we are going to be doing some work on the repeater (translation, spending money) in order to get it to be more respectable. When it is all done we will have some stuff to sell so things will not cost us too much. One thing we do need help on is finding a new site. We will probably have to move in about a year, due to our present location being vacated. That gives us some time.

Dave DeFebo
WB9BWP
Our President

Anyone with connections to a large tower and equipment building or a tall office building (buildings are often better, no climbing involved) for FREE rent, we would like to talk to you.

Speaking of the repeater, we have a new antenna. A real commercial repeater antenna. Translation, big, heavy, expensive. Oh, and also it works. Make use of the repeater. That could be a good place to go when you wish a conversation with someone and the big, real repeaters are busy. Don't forget the Friday night nets. Also getting-closer-to-nightly code practice. Don't know what I'm talking about? Check out the club web page, call on the repeater, come to meetings, send email, just ask.

Dave Karr - KA9FUR, of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters (WAR) has been helping us get the repeater in shape. He has made suggestions of equipment, ordered the antenna, will purchase a radio, delivered and helped install the antenna, tweaked the system (using his own equipment which he brought along), and spent a fair amount of time, including weekends helping us. Oh, and he is not even one of our Club members. With his experience, Matt Planning, Mark Tellier, and myself have been the muscle for repeater work. We are the technical committee by default, since we do/did work in the building. A new location will probably change that.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you can read about the Discovery World Exhibit project. I encourage everyone who can to get involved. Here is a chance to interact with the general public, especially kids. When us old bums are gone, who will take our place? Right now the project needs ideas and maybe equipment/money. When the exhibit is in operation they will need volunteers to staff the exhibit and OPERATE A STATION. As with any other task, the more people involved, the less any one person has to do. MRAC may be providing some of the initial equipment. How about some manpower too (sorry, people-power)? Contact Don Doss - K9QEN to help.

I think I have made this pitch before, but now-a-days, just about the only real reason we can get the government to allow us to have all the valuable frequencies we have is the limited public service we can provide (don't talk to me about technical innovations, international goodwill, or any of that other stuff). Well, spring and summer bring all sorts of fund-raiser type events by a number of charity groups. Many of those events use amateur radio for communication support. Currently the biggest local event from an Amateur Radio perspective is the Ride For The Arts. This takes place Sunday June 2. At least 50 operators are needed. That may not sound like a big deal, what with over 1500 hams in southeastern Wisconsin, but in reality, it is. Hey even I can get up at 4:30 on a Sunday morning for this event (I have gone to bed more times at 4:30 AM than get up at that time). Dust off your handheld and volunteer (your mileage is deductible). Contact John - N9ZJD or Phil - KB9KEE at an ARES meeting or on the Monday nite ARES net (146.67, 9PM). Mention you heard about it here (and don't give me any garbage about not wanting to work with ARES - you're not doing anything for any particular ham or ham group, you're doing something for a charitable organization - but if you couldn't run for office . . . Oh well, no more complaining).

David B. DeFebo

MRAC 85th Anniversary Special Event

On March 16, 2002 seventeen members of the Milwaukee Radio Ammeteurs' Club put the W9RH call sign on the air for the club's 85th birthday. The event ran for a twenty-four hour period and all operators worked from their home stations. There were a total of 534 contacts made, 106 requests for certificates were made by stations that contacted the W9RH call and 10 were requested via e-mail. At this time everyone who had requested a certificate has been mailed one. Contacts were made in all States, Canada, Caribbean and Europe. I will have the log sheets and QSL cards at the next few club meetings.

I would like to take this time to thank the following for participating in this event:

Sherm - KB9Q, Dave - WB9BWP, Ken - W9MOT, Jerry - W9SFH, Bob - AA9VO, Oscar - KC9AMI,, Pancho - KA9OFA, Tom - KB9RLB, Brian K0LCQ, Tom - KF9PU, Mark - AB9CD, Norm - KB9GQX, Mark - KB9LDX, Jackie - KB9LDW, Burt - N9VBI, Verne - W9RYA and Matt - KB9PRC. A special thanks to Brian - K9LCQ, who put together the spreadsheet and printed up the certificates. Also Dave WB9BWP for sending out the e-mail certificates.

This was a lot of fun and I enjoyed handling the event. I look forward to the Clubs 100th birthday so that we can do this again with the participation of everyone. See you at the next club meeting.

73,

Tom Schultz

Tom AB9EK
(Former KB9RLB)

Send In Your Logs

Even if you are not a contester, what ever that means, send in your logs and you will often be surprised by the results. For example, several years ago I sent in an entry to a contest called the "Can-Am." I received a nice certificate proclaiming that I had the second highest score in Wisconsin! Later I found out there were all of two entries from Wisconsin. (Hee Hee)

My latest surprise came from the ARRL. I recently received an impressive certificate proclaiming that I had the highest single band scores in Wisconsin for the June 2001 VHF QSO Party for 222MHz and 432MHz in the low power category. (100 watts or less) The rules stated that there must be a meaningful amount of entries in a category to be recognized. A review of the entry form indicated I had 16 Q(SO)'s on 222MHz and 15 Q(SO)'s on 432MHz, with 10 grid square multipliers on each band. One contact on each band was FM, all the rest were SSB.

Bottom line is, even if your station is modest, send in that entry, you may get a nice piece of wallpaper. And of course, entries indicate the interest in the event and will encourage the sponsors to continue.

73, 73 Sherm KB9Q

Sherm - KB9Q

For Sale

For Sale: Telrex TB6EM tri-band beam in good condition. Reasonably priced

for the DXer. Phil, W9NAW, 414.425.3649.

Jan and/or Phil Gural

janphil@execpc.com

Thank you for your help.

73,

Phil, W9NAW

E-Mail de KB9TIV

Hello Sherm:

I did it, I did it, passed my EXTRA yesterday! Boy, am I glad that is over with. I am going to make my next goal: work with code enough to be able to get on the air and see how I like it.

We'll miss you at BirmingHAMfest! Ken and I are putting labels and stamps on 1,000 fest post cards.

See you sometime.

73

Barbara Brewer

Barbara, KB9TIV

Field Day Tee's and pins

Field Day is just around the corner. The club will make a bulk order of shirts and pins to help save on shipping costs. Shirts are available in sizes M-XXL for $13.50 each. Pins are available for $5.25 each. Orders must be placed and PAID before the end of the May meeting.

The design for this year can be seen on page 128 of the March 2002 QST. Early orders are appreciated!

See Mark Tellier - AB9CD, at meetings, email at ab9cd@arrl.net or call (414)357-6522 between 7 and 10 pm.

Mark W. Tellier AB9CD

Summary of Board Meetings for Feb. and Mar. 2001

Feb. 25, '02 Board mtg.

The meeting was at Tom Fuszard - KF9PU's QTH, Thanks, Tom.

It was recommended by John - KF9XL that the 'Chatter publication be reduced to eight issues a year, at least for this year on a trial basis was passed by the majority of those present. So, at least for this year, the Chatter will be published on the odd numbered months.

At this point, the nominating committee had no-one to run for any of the offices of the Club.

For Field Day (June 23nd & 23rd), Jerry Wahlen - WA9CGE will be our chairman for the activity and Mark Bye - KB9LDX has offered to co-chair the event.

The 85th Anniversary event was on schedule as reported by Tom Schulte - KB9RLB, our coordinator. The event was announced in several Ham Magazines. Tom reported that he needed a design for the certificate, to be used as an event QSL.

Dave - WB9BWP reported that the budget was very good. The Club was ahead by $1,100.

John Kraak - KF9XL reported that he will be generating the new EXTRA Class test. No testing in March, due to the closeness of SuperFest on April 06 at which we will test.

John - WB9PSE checked with Alioto's for the 2002 Christmas party and the only opening was Dec 13th and the cost was deemed to high. Other sites are being looked into.

Dave - WB9BWP told Don Doss (coordinator for the HAM station project at Discovery World at the Museum) that the Club may consider loaning our Field Day equipment for use at the Museum, except during Field Day.

A new site for the repeater will be needed in the near future because Eaton (where it is now located) will be moving out of the building in less than a year. Matt - KB9PRC is the only Club member still working there.

Classes - Dick WB9PTC is no longer able to continue with CW (on the air) classes. New volunteers are needed. EXTRA classes are going well (14 in class). They have requests for another Tech class. Mark - AB9CD and Brian - K9LCQ have volunteered to organize a new class *.

* **See page 7.**

Jim Tromblay - WB9LNU

Mar. 25, '02 - Board mtg.

Board meeting was at the QTH of John - WB9PSE. Thanks for the hospitality.

April board meeting to be at Dave - WB9BWP's QTH and May meeting to be at Jim's QTH May 28th, the day after Memorial Day.

May is to be Election of officers as well as the Club Auction.

Mark - AB9CD says the EXTRA class is just about finished and he is trying to help them with study strategies. Mark says they are considering a Tech class and Tom - KF9PU has volunteered to help.

Tom - AB9EK (new call, used to be KB9RLB) says that they made over 350 contacts and had lots of fun. They have received over 100 E-Mail QSL's and almost as many by snail mail.

Field Day — Jerry - WA9CGE is the Chairman. Many others have volunteered so far.

Election — Tom - AB9EK, has volunteered to run for secretary.

Special guest at the meeting — Dave Karr - KA9FUR. He has made some suggestions to improve the repeater. The board voted to purchase a new antenna that was recommended by Dave KARR. Dave is also keeping an eye out for a better radio.

No reservations have been made for the Christmas Party/Dinner.

These summaries were written by Pancho - KA9OFA from the minutes of the meetings, which were written by Jim Tromblay - WB9LNU Jim WB9LNU

E-Mail re W9VSO

From: S.J. Swanson I got in contact with Art, W9VSO when I sent him a copy of his field Day report in the Hamateur Chatter from 40 years ago. He is in frequent radio contact with some of his old cronies in the area, but others might not be aware of his current medical situation. I enjoy his CW writing style . . .

73, Sherm KB9Q, (EN52vv)

kb9q@arrl.net,

Hi Sherm,

Pse forgive me for not answering all of ur msgs you sent me. Was taking an artritis drug called CELEBREX es it really did a number on me as i lost over a quart of blood with presssure reading of only 70/40 when i got to the Hosp. Am vy weak from the shot my body took es was in ICU for 5 days, Promise to send msg after i get sm of my strength back. Predict total recovery will take at least 3 Mo. Vy tired es 73. Art V.

Summaries of General meetings of Feb. and March, '02

2/28/02 - General meeting

Tom - KB9RLB gave some of the details of the Club's 85th anniversary (On The Air) Event - operators would be able to operate from their own QTH and use the W9RH call and use only the privileges for which they were currently licensed. Call Tom if you wish to participate. Tom is still looking for a design for the events certificate. The event will take place March 15th @ 6 PM through 16th @ 6 PM. Warren - K9IZV wanted to operate on the "91" repeater for the event on behalf of the Club. After some discussion it was decided by vote of 14 to 10 against his doing this. Warren then said that he would inform the "91" group about the event and that they should try to contact us on our MRAC 147.045 repeater.

No VE testing in March due to the proximity of SuperFest on April 6, at which we will be testing.

Certificates were given to members for their efforts at last year's Field Day. Jerry - WA9CGE and Brian - K9LCQ as well as Mark - AB9CD for "Rookie of the Year" and Sarah Parks - KB9ZNC for "Youngest Operator".

The budget reported being ahead by $1,100 last year. The raffle netted $650. The 'Chatter cost was reduced from $1,700 to $500. So far this year we're $785 in the black.

No one to run for office in the next term except for Les - KB9QZQ for the Treasurer's office. After a very good speach by John - KF9ZL Pat - W9UQ and Mark - AB9CD volunteered to run for president and vice president respectively. We were left looking for a secretary and two directors.

Effective immediately, the 'Chatter will be issued once every two months (during the first week of the odd numbered months. This move was to further reduce cost and make it easier for the volunteers who produce and distribute the 'Chatter.

Mark - AB9CD will be making a bulk order to the ARRL for field day T shirts and pins. Be sure to give Mark your order and money this month.

Auctioneer Dave - WB9PWG netted $14.00 on CW tapes AC volt meter, and computer software.

The program was Matt Planning giving a talk on the CORES program .

3/28/'02 - General Meeting

Tom - AB9EK ex-KB9RLB says the Club's 85th birthday celebration (over the air event) was a success at over 500 contacts and over 100 QSL's

VEC testing at AES SuperFest. The question pool will change in July for the EXTRA class tests.

Nominating committee says that we have a full complement of nominees for election of officers. We have Pat - W(UQ, for president, Mark - AB9CD for 1st VP, Les - KB9QZQ for Treasurer and Tom - AB9EK ex KB9RLB has volunteered to be elected as secretary. (Also as of April 25th meeting we also have Tom Fuszard - KF9PU, Bill Fullhart - W9WCF, and Brian White K9LCQ

The Election will be at the May meeting along with the Club Auction. (Bring your goodies) If you wish to donate the proceeds to the Club, you may. If you would like to keep the proceeds for yourself, the Club will take 10% (of anything over $5.00) for the Club treasury.

This is NOT a repeater club. The repeater is just another facet of our activities. Dave Karr - KA9FUR, the area repeater frequency coordinator has recommended that we use a different antenna and radio. The board has approved the purchase of the new antenna and Dave Karr is keeping an eye out for a better radio. If a different radio doesn't do the job, we will sell it as it is in high demand. Vern - W9YRA moved that we purchase the new antenna and radio. The majority voted in favor.

The program was a round table discussion about how different people got started in HAM radio.

W.O.W

Success comes in cans -- NOT in cannots.

Honor your father and your mother as you honor God because all three worked together to create you. -- Old Jewish Proverb

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If your antenna stays up thrrough winter, It's not big enough.

If sense is so common, how come so few have any?

Recent VE Exam Report

MRAC VEC-A held VE testing on April 6, 2002 at AES in conjunction with the AES Superfest. There were 40 candidates, and 31 were successful in either upgrading or in qualifying for there first license. 45 elements were given, and 32 were passed. We are thankful to the following VE's for their help at the session:

Doug Awe - N9VA
Mark Bye - KB9LDX
Gabriel Chido - WI9GC
Kent Christiansen - N9WH
Tom Czaja - KG9EE
Kate Kedney - KA9MWT
John Kraak - KF9XL
Norm McNew - KB9Q
Joe Mettry - AA9DO
Patrick Moretti - W9UQ
Tom Schulte - AB9EK
Sherm Swanson - KB9Q
Mark Tellier - AB9CD
Jerry Thompson - W9SFH
Jim Tromblay - WB9LNU

A special congratulations to all our club members on their upgrades. (*All who were in the MRAC EXTRA Class who took the exam, PASSED) (A big thanks to W9UQ and AB9CD who were the instructors*), so we have a new batch of EXTRAs.

MRAC VEC-A also held VE testing on April 27, 2002. There were 19 candidates, and 13 were successful in either upgrading or in qualifying for their first license. The VE's who participated in the event included the following:

Doug Awe - N9VA
Jim Cronin - K9UGD
Tom Czaja - KG9EE
Bob Immekus - W9CYI
Kate Kedney - KA9MWT
John Kraak - KF9XL
Tom Schulte - AB9EK
Sherm Swanson - KB9Q

Thank you, Pancho.

73,

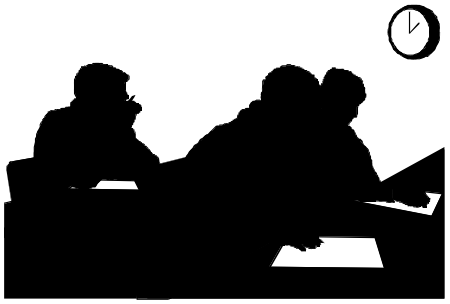
John (KF9XL)

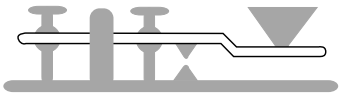
John - KF9XL

MRAC VEC A Exam Schedule

Sat. May 25, 2002
9:30 AM - - -AES

Sat. Jul. 27, 2002
9:30 AM - - -AES





W9PZU & K9UVM

We Received a note from Ed Seruga the first week in April saying that Mel Amidzich - W9PZU age 88 yrs., is doing well after quintuple heart bypass surgery.

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From: Ed Seruga Date: Monday, May 6, 2002 12:01 PM

Subject: Mel, WA9PZU

Hi to all !!! Good news !!!

Noll, Mel's son, called about ten minutes ago from Mel's home to tell me Mel was home from the hospital. I did have the chance to talk with Mel as well. He sure is happy to be home and says he is feeling pretty good... Hopefully he will be back on the MKE/FL net soon..

Vern, K9UVM, is also home from the hospital and surprised us all by coming on the net this morning. He, felt he was still weak from a small heart attack so he posponed the catherization procedure until he gains additional strength. He sounded pretty good this morning.

73, Ed - KE9JJ

- -

Birthday Apologies

My sincere apologies to those persons, whose birthdays I screwed up in the last issue. My database somehow got garbled.

Again, I apologize.

Pancho - KA9OFA

Field Day

Field Day; The local radio clubs and groups are starting to prepare for the annual Field Day Event. It is always exciting when a local group does well, and the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club finished second in their class nationally in 2001. (Top 21%!) We are looking forward to another stellar performance this year. The MRAC is one of the few groups that essentially has their basic Field Day station "in a box" which could actually be set up on a moments notice with transmitters and antennas in the event of a true emergency. All we would have to add would be one of the members' generators. Most of the planning time we spend is on embellishments to enhance the score.

73 Sherman KB9Q

"CQ, CQ Field Day - from W9RH, Wisconsin"....

Yes, A.R.R.L. Field Day will be June 22 and 23, 2002. Our thanks go out the the Board of Directors, and especially Fred, W9NZF, M.R.A.C. will again have the use of the Cedarburg Train Station and the surrounding area at Pioneer Village for our 2002 Field Day operation.

As chairman of the M.R.A.C. Field Day operation I invite members and non-members to come out to Pioneeer Village to operate and particpate.

Pioneer Village is located in Ozaukee County on County Highway I, between Saukville and Fredonia. Generally, it is 26 miles north of 76th. Street and Silver Spring Drive, Milwaukee. To get there, drive North on 76th Street (State Highway 181), which becomes County Highway N in Ozaukee County, to State Highway 60, at the "5 Corners". Turn right, or East, on Highway 60 to the first Stop & Go light, County Highway I. Turn left, or North, on County I, and travel approximately 12 miles to Hawthorne Hills Golf Course (on your right). Upon passing the golf course, County Highway I will have a steep rise to the roadway, and at the top of the rise there will be a "Pioneer Village" sign on the right side of the road. You are there!

Activities will start on Saturday, June 22nd, at 8:00 A.M. when M.R.A.C. will "move in", and start the setup of antennas, and everything else, that goes with field day. Frequencies of operation will be 80 through 2 Meters, using the modes of S.S.B., C.W., F.M., Satellite, and Digital (PSK31).We also expect that we will have a Solar-Powered station and there also will be an "Olde-Time" (tube) transmitter and receiver for all to use. Sufficient antennas will be raised, and if you feel more comfortable using your own equipment feel free to bring it out. M.R.A.C. does own some of the equiment that will be used during field day. The operation will be classed as a "4A - Commercial (mains)" powered operation using the Pioneer Village's line power.

M.R.A.C. will also hold a picnic on Saturday afternoon. Food will be available.

Operation of the Field Day station will begin at 12:00 P.M. (C.S.T.) Saturday and end at 12:00 P.M. (C.S.T.) Sunday. If you don't come out to Pioneer Village remember to "fire-up" you home station and contact "W9RH" on the air.

"73's for now. From: WA9CGE, Jerry"

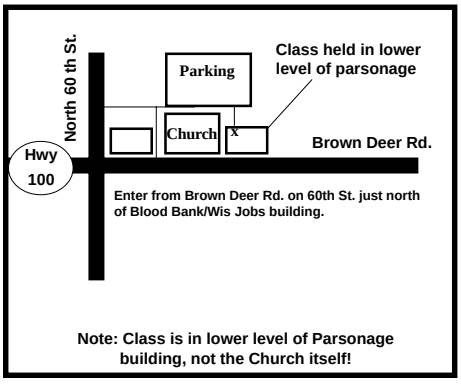
Here's A Flash:
Tech Classes

Where?

Brown Deer United Methodist Church

5736 W. Brown Deer Road

Brown Deer, WI


North 60 th St.
Parking
Class held in lower level of parsonage
Church
X
Brown Deer Rd.
Hwy 100
Enter from Brown Deer Rd. on 60th St. just north of Blood Bank/Wis Jobs building.
Note: Class is in lower level of Parsonage building, not the Church itself!

When?

5 Wednesdays May 29 through June 30, 2002 6 PM–8:30 PM.

Fee?

MRAC members pay $10.00, non-members pay $25.00.

Advance registration required! (class size is limited by facilities–1st paid -1st served)

Text book?

"Now You're Talking" by ARRL–$19 (available at Amateur Electronic Supply–be sure to mention you're taking the class)

Class size is limited.

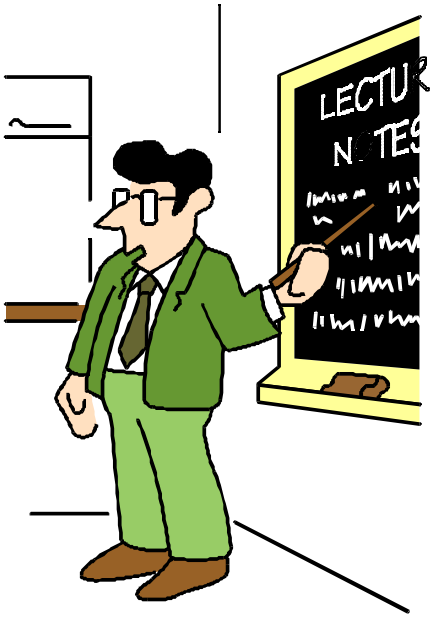
Sign up today!

Sponsored by:

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club Inc.

P.O.Box 070695

Milwaukee, WI 53207-0695



(262) 797-MRAC

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http://www.qsl.net/mrac

DISCOVERY WORLD MUSEUM

by DON DOSS, K9QEN

Have you been to the James Lovell Museum of Science, Economics & Technology? Did you know that Milwaukee is home to this museum, designated as one of the top five interactive museums in the Nation by The Today Show? You may be more familiar with it's more popular name: Discovery World Museum!

DWM has been a labor of love - love of children and the realization that the children are the future of our country and our world. Such has been the mission of Executive Director Paul Krajniak. He has surrounded himself with people of like thoughts -people who have used their love and their talents to create a museum of masterpieces.

I had the pleasure of meeting Paul and working with him and his team with the remotely controlled cameras that are a hit with everyone that enters the museum. When the camera idea was first presented to Carl Schottel, the Museum's "Artistic Director", I learned that there's more than one definition of "Art". Carl is a master of making things functional yet childproof! I would have thought the way Carl redesigned the joystick would have been impervious to the Incredible Hulk. Instead, we had to go back to the drawing board - this time even an earthquake couldn't harm it!

I have shared my experience with you to give you some idea of the dedication this team has toward reaching out to the youngsters that walk through the DWM doors. I've seen this demonstrated frequently. The year before DWM moved to its beautiful new home, I was invited to demonstrate amateur radio during their Techno-Fest. Paul and Carl's team worked tirelessly in helping us raise antennas and run coax without really knowing what we were doing until we were all set up! Due to the huge success at this Techno-Fest we were invited back two years later, this time at their new home on 9th St - later renamed James Lovell Street (remember the Museum's official name?). We discussed the idea of a permanent amateur radio station at DWM but shelved it for lack of time and other pressing DWM projects.

The idea resurfaced in October, 2000, when Paul called and asked if I could put a station together for the Jamboree On The Air - his call came on October 16th, the Sunday before the Big Weekend! Getting a team together on such short notice would certainly be a formidable task. However, Milwaukee ARES Director Jeananne Bargholz, N9VSV, had the solution - why not use the new ARES communications van? All we needed was a driver. (Why did everyone have to take a vacation on the same weekend?!?) Finally, when I was about to give up, Milt Klingsporn, N9WSZ, forgoing his personal obligations, stepped up. He drove the van from Mitchell to DWM and parked it on James Lovell Street. We set up and then had a continuous stream of fascinated scouts enjoying their first glimpse of amateur radio.

We're now on the threshold of what will become a permanent, hands-on exhibit of amateur radio at DWM. A group of about 30 hams have expressed their interest in being part of this exciting endeavor. Nine of those dedicated souls braved far less than perfect weather to attend a kick-off meeting at DWM on 4/1. We were shown two of three possible homes for the shack, any one of which would put most of our personal shacks to shame! In addition, rooms and even a small theatre are available.

In my letter of appreciation to Carl for his hospitality, I stated that this was a win-win-win proposition. DWM wins by increased gate sales, amateur radio wins through exposing inquisitive youngsters (and oldsters!) to the exciting world of amateur radio, and the community wins by tapping the interest of youngsters and directing it toward very positive paths.

To keep the momentum, we need not just more ideas but ways to implement the ideas to pique the interest of our audience. Ideas presented include speakers outside the shack to draw interest and headphones for listeners to select a communication mode to hear; fast-scan TV; a functioning 2-meter repeater (just like the cops use!); electronic construction classes (crystal radio, code practice oscillator, etc.); amateur radio contests - live!; Jamboree On The Air; pictures; demonstration of radio evolution from spark gap to integrated circuit; communicate with schools and other museums via amateur radio; communication via satellite; communication with the Space Station ("Space Station" opens at Humphrey IMAX June 14th and includes a piece on the amateur radio station on board the Station); use of an audio tape being produced by Gordon West; having a telegraph key available and teach kids to spell their names in Morse Code; ad infinitum.

Yes, the list is endless. Can you offer other suggestions? Do you have an innovative way to use amateur radio to meet our objective of reaching out to the youngsters (and oldsters!) for amateur radio? If so, please share them with me by either e-mail k9qen@arrl.net or phone 414-281-9294. As licensed hams who love our hobby in whatever mode(s) we choose, we are obligated to preserve our right by being Elmers to interested non-hams. I look forward to hearing from each and every ham in the metro-Milwaukee area!

73, Don de K9QEN

EVENTS

* indicates VEC Testing

Princeton HamFest &
Computer Show
SUN. - JUN. 2, 2002
Bureau Co. Fairgrounds
Princeton, IL
T/I on 146.955 -.600 MHz (PL 103.5)

Ham Radio and
Electronic Flea Mkt. *
SUN. JUNE 9, 2002
DuPage Co Fairgrounds
Wheaton IL
T/I on 146.37/97 MHz (PL 107.2)

SMARC SwapFest '02
SAT. - JULY 6, 2002
American Legion Post 434
Oak Creek, WI
T/I on 146.52 MHz simp

FRRL HamFelt *
SUN. - JUL. 21, 2002
Wabonsee Community College
Sugar Grove, IL
T/I on 147.21 + (103.5/107.2 PL) rptr

Circus City SwapFest
SAT. - AUG. 10, 2002
Sauk Co. Fairgrounds
Baraboo, WI
T/I on 147.315 + (123.0 PL)

Peotone HamFest *
SUN. - AUG. 11, 2002
Will Co. Fairgrounds
Peotone, IL
T/I on 146.52 simp.

SummerFest 2002 *
SUN. - AUG. 11, 2002
SummerFest Grounds
Amana, IA
T/I on 146.745/.145 MHz rptr
or 146.52 MHz simp

birthdate

June

Myron Hendrickson	KA9MWV	6/07
William Jones	KF9FA	6/09
Samuel Saffro	K9OXH	6/17
Nicholas Broncatti	KA9LUW	6/22
Jim Hansen	W9AQN	6/23
Carol Gariner	KB9ZUH	6/23

July

Robert Tisdale	AA9VO	7/06
Fred Recklies	KB9JBG	7/14
Carlos Barron	KG9FC	7/16
Charles Ackermann	W9OWM	7/17
Joe Sturmberg	KA9DFZ	7/17
Mike McKenna	KB9MMI	7/20
Bessie Beider	N9QIT	7/25
Robert Hetzel	W9VQG	7/29
Howard Parks	KB9VJS	7/31

¡¡ Happy Birthday !!

Please, use our Repeater.
Use it or lose it.
147.045 MHz + offset.

Meeting Schedule

Our Meeting schedule for the first six months of 2002 is as follows:

Election of officers **May 30**
and Auction
Installation of Officers **June 27**
See you there!

Pancho - KA9OFA

Credits

Our thanks to our news contributors this month:

WB9BWP	KE9JJ	KB9Q
AB9CD	K9LCQ	K9QEN
WA9CGE	WB9LNU	KB9RLB
AB9EK	KF9PU	KF9XL

Thanks also to Mark Tellier - AB9CD, Armin Doneis III, and Rita Doneis for their help in the proof-reading dept. Our thanks goes to John Merkl and Norman Russell for making sure that the 'Chatter gets printed, stamped, and mailed.

Thanks also to Alfred Huwald and Myron Hendrickson for obtaining and serving refreshments at our meetings.

Thanks also goes to Tom Sherlowsky and Jacquie Horwitz for taking care of the raffle at the meetings.

Special thanks to all of our officers (past and present) who have tirelessly toiled for the good of the Club and Amateur Radio in general.

Many Thanks!

M.R.A.C.

Meetings are held the last Thursday of each month except in December. The next meeting is;

Thursday - May 30, 2002.

at 7:00 PM at:

Redemption Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall
4057 N. Mayfair Rd.
(Use the south entrance)
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

Please! Don't call the Church for information!

Celebrating 85 Years!

Attention!!!

Election of Officers and Club Auction

(Bring your goodies to Auction off)

May 30, 2002 meeting.

Have you used our Repeater, lately?
Use it or lose it.
147.045 MHz + offset.

Visit our Website

http://www.qsl.net/mrac/

M.R.A.C.

One of the World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Clubs - - since 1917

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Volume 10 No. 3 - May, '02